

LIONSGATE ACADEMY  
District #4183  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
August 18, 2016, 6:00 pm

Lionsgate Academy 5605 Green Cir Dr, Minnetonka, MN 55343

**TO:** Jim Harms, Sara Bydzovsky, Jo Sander, Christine Peper, Emy Bachman, Ali Thorstad, Darren Johnson, Liz Wielinski, and Laura Cottingham.  
Others: Diane Halpin, Executive Director; Ryan Rehnstrand, Special Education Director; Ron Berger, Director of Finance  
**FROM:** Ali Thorstad, Chair

**Call to order:** Ali Thorstad, Chair, 6:03 pm

**School Mission Statement:**

*The mission of Lionsgate Academy is to foster self-determination by providing a transitions-focused, personalized learning program for all students, specializing in educating students with autism spectrum disorders.*

**Comments from Community Members:** Public Comment is an open forum portion of the meeting and is an opportunity to present an issue, concern, or other statement to the Board of Directors. Individuals wishing to address the Board must sign up prior to the Call to Order and will be allotted three (3) minutes. Total public comment will be limited to twenty one (21) minutes.

**Conflict of Interest Declaration** (None)

**Approval of the Agenda**

1. Additions Under Finance Committee
  - a. Auditor's Compliance Letter
  - b. Authorize Renewal of Services with Booth Law Firm

<b>Motion:</b> Move to approve agenda with additions.			
<b>Made by:</b> Wielinski		<b>Seconded by:</b> Johnson	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 8	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b>

**Model:**

1. **Consent Agenda**
  - a. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes 7-19-2016
  - b. Governance Committee Report 8-11-2016
  - c. Approval of Policies
    - i. Revision of 903 Anti-Bullying DRAFT

<b>Motion:</b> Move to approve consent agenda.			
<b>Made by:</b> Wielinski		<b>Seconded by:</b> Bachman	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 8	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b>

**2. Special Education Update**

- a. Closing up first week of Back to School training and things are going well
  - i. Presenter from Edina spoke on the topic of mental health and working with both parents and students who may have mental health challenges
- b. Lionsgate is in the process of changing its logo, staff and school board voting
- c. Current opening in Special Education Language Arts

**3. Strategic Planning Update**

- a. Implementing ELA (English Language Arts) training for staff
- b. LEO (Leadership Enrichment Opportunity) program piloting this fall

**4. Business**

- 1. Director’s Report-Diane
  - i. Student Achievement
    - 1. Testing Update
      - a. Still doing well in science and MCA scores pretty good overall
      - b. MAP growth does not match MCA growth
        - i. More to come on this topics
    - 2. Looking at EA Schedules and assigning classroom EAs based on student need
      - a. Want to give students more independence for those who can
    - 3. Waiting List Update
      - a. Over 200 families on wait list, biggest groups are 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade
    - 4. Moving forward on establishing a music program with 88 Notes
    - 5. Reducing number of clubs offered in the fall to make sure there is enough staff coverage
    - 6. New extra-curricular requirements for drama, yearbook and quiz bowl (3 day commitment—more time/day commitment): letter will be sent to parents
  - ii. Approval of 2016-17 Staff and Student Handbook

<b>Motion:</b> Move to approve staff handbook			
<b>Made by:</b> Sander		<b>Seconded by:</b> Wielinski	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 8	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b>

- 1. Discussion around student handbook
  - a. Chromebook policy: If parents don’t want to sign contract for their student to have an individual Chromebook students can check one out per hour

<b>Motion:</b> Move to approve student handbook			
<b>Made by:</b> Wielinski		<b>Seconded by:</b> Harms	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 8	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b>

- iii. Ribbon cutting ceremony scheduled for November 18<sup>th</sup>, Night of the Fall Ball
- 2. Foundation Update
  - i. Affidavit for expansion for LGA East building is being worked on

3. Committee Reports

i. Governance

1. Approval of 2016-17 Board Calendar Dates

<b>Motion:</b> Move to approve 2016-17 Board Calendar dates.			
<b>Made by:</b> Bachman		<b>Seconded by:</b> Wielinski	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 8	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b>

2. Desegregation lawsuit and trial update provided

ii. Finance

1. Committee Update

a. Booth Law Group Contract Renewal Agreement

<b>Motion:</b> Move to authorize Diane Halpin to sign contract renewal with Booth Law Group.			
<b>Made by:</b> Wielinski		<b>Seconded by:</b> Johnson	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 8	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b>

2. Financials

- a. July 15<sup>th</sup> we received our hold back funds
- b. \$900,000 on our credit
- c. Field work for audit begins on September 6, takes 2-3 days of field work
  - i. Drafts of audit should be ready for November board meeting
- d. Financials discussed, waiting to file lease aid

<b>Motion:</b> Move to approve financials.			
<b>Made by:</b> Wielinski		<b>Seconded by:</b> Sander	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 8	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b>

iii. Building

1. Gym should be completed by end of October
2. Final building costs reviewed \$2,627,567

iv. ~~Executive Director Evaluation~~

5. Review: September's Board Meeting agenda

- a. Audit update

**Motion to Adjourn:** 7:20pm

**Lionsgate Academy's Authorizer is:**

Novation Education Opportunities, 3432 Denmark Avenue Suite 103, Eagan, Minnesota 55123  
Phone 612-889-2103 Fax 612-870-1200 email executive.director.neo@gmail.com http://www.neoauthorizer.org

<b>Motion:</b> Move to adjourn			
<b>Made by:</b> Cottington		<b>Seconded by:</b> Bachman	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 8	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b>

**Next Meeting:** September 22, 2016, 6:00 pm

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